

NEWSLETTER

COMMONWEALTH
TERRACE CO-OP



Feature Story

Our CTC Community Needs YOU!

A strong community isn't built by one person—it grows when residents share their ideas, talents, time, and experiences with one another.

As CTC continues working to create more opportunities for residents to connect, we want to hear from you!

We're currently looking for residents who may be interested in volunteering with community activities and events throughout the year. Whether you can help for an hour at an event, share a skill, assist with an activity, or become more involved in one of our community groups, there are many ways to participate.

Have an idea instead?

We want those too! What programs would you attend? What traditions would you like to share? What would help you feel more connected to your neighbors and the CTC community?

♥ Help Shape the Future of CTC!

Share your ideas through the Community Engagement intake form.

Interested in volunteering? Reach out to LaDina in Community Engagement.

Your ideas + your involvement = a stronger CTC community.

Team Spotlight

MEET YOUR CTC STAFF

This month, we're introducing you to Serenity Odell from CTC Leasing!

Serenity helps residents navigate the leasing side of life at CTC, but there's much more to know about the person behind the desk.

MEET YOUR CTC Community

GETTING TO KNOW THE PEOPLE WHO HELP MAKE CTC HOME

Serenity Odell
LEASING
"Built from chaos, Fueled by the vision."

THE FUN FACTS

- FAVORITE SNACK:** Cucumbers with vinegar and ranch
- FAVORITE DESSERT:** Chip apple pie with vanilla ice cream or chocolate
- FAVORITE MOVIES:** Cool Mom's Daughter, Lost American Girl From the 80's, Transformers, Pretty Woman
- CURRENTLY LISTENING TO:** Chris Brown Radio on Pandora
- COFFEE ORDER:** Hot Turtle Mocha (half sweet)
- FAVORITE SEASON:** Spring & Summer
- BEACH OR MOUNTAINS?** Beach

HIDDEN TALENT: I can sing. I also do hair.

ONE THING MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT ME: I am the oldest sibling of 18 kids.

FAVORITE BOOK OR MOVIE? Movies- DREAM VACATION:** A relaxing trip to the coast of Maine, visiting charming little towns, enjoying the ocean views, and eating the freshest seafood right by the shore.
- IF YOU WON THE LOTTERY...** I would open a savings account.
- WHAT DO YOU WANT RESIDENTS TO KNOW?** It's harder than I seem to be, but I'm committed to you, and make the resident experience feel a little more personal.
- WHAT DOES COMMUNITY MEAN TO YOU?** Surrounding neighbors and local businesses.
- DOGS OR CATS?** Dogs
- MORNING OR NIGHT?** Night
- SWEET OR SALTY?** Salty
- SUPERPOWER:** I would want to be able to teleport on fly.

Say hello
IF YOU SEE SERENITY AROUND!
Introduce yourself and ask her about the community group she's part of!

This Week's Challenge:
If you see Serenity around CTC this week, stop by and say hello! Ask her about her

| ASK CTC

You Asked. CTC Is Answering.

What is the difference between a membership and a non-membership? How do I apply?

CTC is a cooperative community where eligible resident households may apply for membership.

Membership provides residents with the opportunity to participate more directly in the cooperative, including its governance and community responsibilities. Residents who are not members pay an additional monthly non-member fee.

There are specific requirements and responsibilities associated with becoming and remaining a member, so residents interested in membership should review the CTC Residential Handbook for complete information about eligibility, responsibilities, and the application process.

CTC is also continuing to explore ways to strengthen the membership experience and encourage greater resident involvement in the cooperative.

Have a question you'd like to see answered in a future Ask CTC column? Send it our way—if you're wondering about it, chances are one of your neighbors is too!

Housing Tips

CTC has two-bedroom apartments expected to become available for move-in between mid-October and November, and there is currently a limited-time opportunity for eligible residents interested in upgrading.

Transfer Fee Waiver Limited Time Opportunity

CTC is currently waiving the transfer fee for eligible residents upgrading to a two-bedroom apartment. Available apartments will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

To qualify, residents must:

Move into an eligible two-bedroom apartment during October or November 2026 Cont. below

Housing Tips cont.

Pass a pre-inspection of their current apartment

Be current on rent and all other applicable fees

Meet all other applicable transfer requirements

Interested residents should contact Serenity in the CTC Leasing office for additional information and availability. sodell-morris@umnctc.org

Availability is limited and eligibility requirements apply.

Stay in Touch

✉ Community@umnctc.org

☎ 651-369-1655

📍 1250 Fifield Ave, Falcon Heights, MN 55108

“Together, small steps create big change.”

Community Spotlight

Recognized Through Resident Reviews!

There's something special about hearing directly from the people who call CTC home. Based on 2026 Google reviews, CTC received recognition as Best Student Housing Center in St. Paul for 2026. This recognition reflects the experiences residents have chosen to share and gives us another reason to celebrate the community we're continuing to build together.

Thank you to the residents, volunteers, staff, Board members, committee members, coordinators, and neighbors who contribute their time and energy to CTC.

Every event attended, idea shared, garden tended, volunteer shift completed, neighbor welcomed, and conversation started contributes to the community we call home.

Here's to continuing to build CTC—together. ❤️



| COMMUNITY LIFE

CTC Spirit Week Is Coming

Let's bring a little extra fun, color, and personality to CTC!

Spirit Week will take place during our office days surrounding the Fire Extinguisher Exchange. Residents and staff are encouraged to join in, have fun, and show their CTC spirit.

 **MONDAY, OCTOBER 19**
JERSEY CITY MONDAY

Show off your team spirit and wear your favorite sports jersey!

 **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20**
PAJAMA JAMMY JAM TUESDAY

Roll out of bed and rock your comfiest pajamas!

 **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22**
GET WACKY, GET TACKY THURSDAY

Mix colors, patterns, accessories, and anything fun—the crazier, the better!

 Take pictures throughout the week and show off your CTC spirit.

Let's make Commonwealth Terrace a fun, welcoming, and colorful place for everyone.

Composting on the go!

The Compost Club could use a little help from the CTC community!

If you're outside near one of our compost bins, give the handle a few turns while you're passing by! Turning helps mix and aerate the compost, especially when excess moisture begins settling in the bins.

No sign-up, no gardening or composting experience needed! Just lend a hand whenever you're in the area. 

See a bin? Give it a spin! 

| MAINTENANCE CORNER

Fall Is Here Let's Get Ready!

October brings several important seasonal maintenance activities to CTC.

 **Fire Extinguisher Exchange**

The Fire Extinguisher Exchange will take place **October 20–22**. Watch for additional information from CTC regarding the exchange process and what residents need to do.

 **Fall Clean-Up Weekend | October 10–11**

Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative's annual Fall Clean-Up Weekend will take place on Saturday, October 10 and Sunday, October 11, 2026.

As a cooperative community, all membership households are expected to participate. Fall Clean-Up helps prepare CTC's grounds for the winter season while keeping our community clean, safe, and enjoyable for everyone.

Your assigned Ward Representative will provide the details for your ward, including: Meeting location

Start time

Task assignments

Supplies and equipment needed

Any ward-specific instructions

Please watch for communication from your Ward Representative as Fall Clean-Up Weekend approaches.



Programs, Events & Activates

Fall Fest

The countdown is on! CTC Fall Fest is Saturday, October 3, and this year we're bringing even more food, activities, entertainment, and fall fun to the community.

Whether you're coming for the food, bringing the kids for activities, ready to grab the mic for karaoke, or just looking forward to spending the afternoon with your neighbors there will be something for everyone!

🎨 Get Your Face Painted!

Phancy Faces is joining us for Fall Fest with professional face painting!

📷 Strike a Pose!

Grab your family, friends, and neighbors and make some Fall Fest memories at the photo booth.

🍔 Come Hungry!

We're bringing multiple food trucks to CTC, giving residents a variety of options to enjoy throughout the afternoon. Grab something delicious, find a spot to relax, and enjoy the festivities.

🎯 NEW Games Are Coming to CTC!

We're rolling out new CTC games and activities for the first time at Fall Fest!

☀️ Made Right Here at CTC!

One of the best parts of Fall Fest is getting the chance to celebrate the incredible people who make up our community.

This year, Fall Fest will include a showcase of CTC residents and their talents, creativity, and small businesses. Stop by, support your neighbors and celebrate the talent within our own CTC community

🎧 Turn Up the Music...and Grab the Mic!

Our Fall Fest DJ will keep the energy going with incredible music with Karaoke

Bring the family, invite your CTC neighbors, and come ready for an afternoon of fun.

17 Saturday, October 3, 2026

🕒 12:00–4:00 PM

We can't wait to celebrate fall with you, CTC!

CTC October's Calendar

October 3

CTC Annual Fall Fest

October 7, 14, 21, & 28th

Roseville ECFE Drop in and play
12:15pm-1:15pm

October 10

Fall Clean-Up Weekend | October 10–11

October 12

Indigenous People's Day- CTC Office Closed

October 15

Cops N Coffee at the new time of 8:30am

October 19-22

CTC Spirit Week

October 20-22

Fire Extinguisher Exchange *

October 25

Community Breakfast (TASMN) 10am

October 29

New Social Hour 7pm

Have an event or program you'd love to see at CTC? We want to hear your ideas! Complete the Help Shape CTC Form and let us know what activities, programs, or experiences you'd like to see in our community.

[HELP SHAPE CTC](#)

OCTOBER

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1 Fall Heat Starts	2	3 Fall Fest	4
5	6	7 Drop Play	8	9	10 Fall Clean up	11
12 Office Closed	13	14 Drop Play	15 Cops N Coffee	16	17	18
19 Spirit Week Jersey	20 Spirit Week pajama	21 Drop Play Fire Exchange	22 Spirit Week Wacky	23	24	25 CB *
26	27	28 Drop Play	29 Social Hour	30	31	

CTC Compost Club



CTC Community Voices



CTC Handbook



Help Share CTC

